

## **News Release**

For Immediate Release

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*(Note: The point of contact is strictly for media purposes. Producers are encouraged to contact their local county FSA office. Please do not release the point of contact to the public.)*

### **Deadline Extended for Farm Program Enrollment**

Bozeman—Farm Service Agency State Executive Director Randy Johnson has announced that the sign-up deadline for the 2007 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program has been extended until August 3, 2007.

The decision to extend the deadline was made as a result of earlier computer networking problems that hampered FSA's ability to process DCP enrollments. Enrollment in DCP for the 2007 contract period began on October 1, 2006.

Johnson noted that the extension applies only to the enrollment time frame and does not extend the annual DCP contract period beyond September 30, 2007. A late-file fee of \$100 will be assessed for farms that are enrolled after August 3, 2007 but on or before September 30, 2007. Applications signed after September 30, 2007 cannot be approved.

Direct Payments are based on a farm's historical commodity bases and yields. For crop year 2007, an advance payment of 22 percent may be requested with the final payment to be issued in October.

Counter-cyclical payments are made to producers when the effective price for eligible commodities is less than the target price. This program helps to improve and promote the economic stability of agriculture communities and ensure equitable delivery of program benefits and services.

For further information regarding programs administered by FSA, logon to the Montana FSA website at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/mt>.